



30 January 2026

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

### **2026 Term 1 Week 1 College Update**

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the first College Update for the 2026 academic year. This fortnightly correspondence aims to provide parents and caregivers with an overview of all College events, along with key information associated with College operations. We aim to minimise email traffic by consolidating key information into this one communication per fortnight. In alternate weeks, a newsletter will be sent with "Good News" stories from around the College.

### **Aquinas Precinct Project Update**

Over the course of the year, we will share updates on the Aquinas Precinct Project (APP) construction progress. To that end, it is exciting to share the latest with you:

- Construction of the project is now well underway, with the builder progressing toward the completion of the remaining structural steel framing works.
- Focus is now shifting to the installation of the roof sheeting, alongside the commencement of early internal service and fitout works.
- The project continues to experience challenges associated with weather conditions, with past rain events previously impacting progress, now followed by further delays due to periods of extreme heat.

### **Cabra Handbook**

Please familiarise yourself with the 2026 Parent Handbook, located in the SEQTA Engage Parent and Caregiver portal, as well as on the College Website (via the Resources tab) at this link: [Parent Handbook](#).

This handbook is a valuable reference guide for students, parents and caregivers and includes information about our College values and policies, learning and assessment, communication and systems, uniform and presentation and more.

## Wellbeing Service Delivery Model

As a school, Cabra Dominican College has always placed the care, safety and welfare of its students as a core priority. This commitment remains unchanged. However, as part of our ongoing responsibility to care for young people, it is important that we regularly review our services to ensure they remain effective, relevant and responsive to student needs.

Schools across Australia have experienced a significant shift in the volume and complexity of student mental health presentations, and Cabra is committed to ensuring our support systems evolve accordingly. In response to these changes, Cabra is introducing an enhanced service delivery model in 2026 that better aligns with the needs of young people today; one that is responsive, sustainable and able to provide timely support informed by best practice.

The enhanced service delivery model will be a **Social Work Service** led by a Social Work Director and delivered by a multidisciplinary team who provide immediate assistance through a daily duty worker located in the Wellbeing Space. Where appropriate, students may also be offered short-term, focused intervention with one of our practitioners.

Referrals to the service can be made through SEQTA Engage Portal by clicking the **Social Work Form** icon or via [wellbeingreferrals@cabra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:wellbeingreferrals@cabra.catholic.edu.au)

Our commitment to supporting students' wellbeing remains unwavering. For further information, please refer to the 2026 Cabra [Parent Handbook](#).

## Student Progress

The first few days of the academic year can be exciting and challenging for students, given there are new classmates and teachers to meet. The start of the year is a significant transition period for all students, and they will each cope differently with the challenges this period brings. In fact, many students may be more frightened of the possibility of failure than they are thrilled by the possibility of success! If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact the Mentor teachers and/or House Leaders to discuss how your child is settling in over the first few weeks.

## 2026 Tuition Fee Accounts

Please be advised that the 2026 Tuition Fee accounts are scheduled to be sent during Week 2 and Week 3 of Term 1, 2026. For existing families: If you have not yet confirmed your 2026 payment plan, please contact [fees@cabra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:fees@cabra.catholic.edu.au) as a matter of priority.

For families new to Cabra, you will be invited to log in to FACTS fee payment platform during Week 3 of Term 1 to set up your account and establish your payment schedule for 2026.

## Access to SEQTA Engage and Consent2Go

All parents and caregivers should now have full access to SEQTA Engage and Consent2Go. If you have not received provisioning information for SEQTA, please check your junk/spam folder. If at any stage you would like to update your contact details or your child's medical details, you have the ability to request a secure link to be sent to your email account directly from Consent2Go by clicking the Consent2Go icon in SEQTA Engage. If you require any assistance in accessing these digital platforms, please contact me directly by email.

## Semester 1 Subject Changes

Final subject changes for Semester 1 2026 must be finalised by **Monday 2 February 9:00am**. Please email [subjectselection@cabra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:subjectselection@cabra.catholic.edu.au) in order that any amendments to a student's timetable can be considered. This deadline also ensures that significant subject coursework is not missed.

Please note that not all subject changes concerning a student's academic programme can be acted upon, due to class size or availability on a particular line that clashes with another subject, but we will make every endeavour to pursue a student's request.

Furthermore, we cannot make adjustments to a student's timetable based on requests for particular teachers, or friendship requests. If you have concerns regarding your child's learning, we encourage you to make contact with the relevant Subject Teacher and outline these concerns to best support your child's engagement and success. There are a number of factors which influence timetabling, and balancing class dynamics, teacher workload, and industrial requirements are all factors in this.

## 2026 Winter Sport Nominations

Sport is an important component of College life at Cabra and our students enjoy success and recognition with sport in the wider community. Our co-curricular programmes strive to nurture and develop the unique gifts of individual students and are supported by the group activities offered at Cabra. We encourage families to nominate for Sport activities, where Cabra will work closely with each child and their parents/caregivers on an individual basis to manage any potential clashes with training times.

Further information is available in the [Sport Information Guide](#). Exact times for training will be advised late in Term 1, 2026.

- **Fees:** Annual fees per student are charged to cover costs of registration, umpires and other associated costs. Fees will be charged at the time of nomination.
- **Uniform:** Sport uniforms are to be purchased through the [Uniform Shop](#) (4/378 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park). The staff there will be able to advise you of what is required for a specific activity.
- **Nominations:** Winter Sport nominations are due **Friday 13 February 2026**. To nominate via your mobile phone or laptop, download the Qkr! app and enter Cabra Dominican College in the Search field. Select the Sports tab, 2026 Nominations and then select the Sport and Year Level. To finalise, click Add to Order – View Cart – Pay.

For information and reference, please also note that Summer Sport Nominations are full and closed for 2026.

If you have any further questions regarding Sport Nominations, please contact Joel Morizzi (Leader of Co-Curricular Sport) and/or Jess Simons (Sport Administrator) on 8179 2415 or via [sport@cabra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sport@cabra.catholic.edu.au)

## Uniform and Personal Presentation

We expect that all students will respect the College's [uniform requirements](#) and present themselves in a way which reflects the values and standards of the College. As a condition of their enrolment, all students are required to wear the College uniform as it has been designed to be worn. The Cabra uniform is a clear visual recognition that students are part of our community and assists them in developing a sense of belonging and pride in representing Cabra.

Some key Summer Uniform reminders, as we commence Term 1, are outlined below:

- PE socks (black or white) are to be worn with the PE uniform.
- Formal socks are to be worn with the formal uniform. Girls are to wear white Cabra socks with the formal uniform. Boys are to wear grey Cabra socks with the formal uniform.
- Blazers for Year 7 students typically arrive as part of the March/April winter collection. Jumpers can be worn in lieu of blazers during Term 1 when the weather is cold.

## Physical Education and Performing Arts Uniform Requirements

Students should only be wearing PE Uniform on days when they have the following timetabled lessons:

- Year 7 – 12 Physical Education
- Year 7 – 8 Performing Arts – Dance/Drama
- Year 9 – 12 Dance

In Physical Education lessons, College caps (or bucket hats) are compulsory during Terms 1 and 4 (and recommended in Terms 2 and 3). Drink bottles are required, as drink fountains around the College have changed to only facilitate drink bottle use.

In Year 7 and 8 Performing Arts – Dance/Drama and Year 9 – 12 Dance lessons, we recognise that students need to be able to move freely and hope that the PE Uniform will help students participate with confidence and facilitate successful experiences in the subject. Students in Year 9 – 12 Dance must purchase and wear the Dance t-shirt from the Uniform Shop, wear ankle length black leggings and half or full sole contemporary shoes.

If you have any further questions about uniform requirements in these two subjects, please contact:

Name	Subject Area	Email
Maddison Wheatley-Harris	Leader of Learning – Health and Physical Education	<a href="mailto:mwheatleyharris@cabra.catholic.edu.au">mwheatleyharris@cabra.catholic.edu.au</a>
Giselle Becker	Leader of Learning – Performing Arts	<a href="mailto:gbecker@cabra.catholic.edu.au">gbecker@cabra.catholic.edu.au</a>

## Hats and Sun Protection

Students are strongly encouraged to wear the approved College hat outside at recess and lunch times. It is compulsory for students to wear the approved College hat outside when participating in Physical Education lessons, recreational activities and sports practices during Terms 1 and 4.

## Pick Up and Drop Off Zones

As the morning and afternoon times are busy, please ensure you have arranged with your child where they will be dropped off and collected from. Parents and caregivers are able to enter the College gates via Little Street and drop off students at the commencement of each school day and then exit the property via Morris Street (the roadway through the College property is one way for all traffic). Please note that accessing the College property by car via the front gates on Cross Road and using this area as a pick up and drop off zone is not permitted.

Please also note that City of Mitcham Parking Inspectors and Compliance Officers regularly monitor the streets surrounding the College and in particular, the "No Standing" zone on Eaton Street. Any breaches of the rules regarding this "No Standing" zone observed by a Compliance Officer may result in the issue of an **expiation notice**. Parents are required to behave respectfully at all times, and this applies to words, tone and body language. We expect parents to model appropriate behaviours for their children and to comply with any traffic rules and traffic management system(s) in place. Please note City of Mitcham reserves the right to contact SAPOL if parents are disrespectful towards a Parking Inspector, or if they are deemed to be creating a safety hazard on Eaton Street.

Furthermore, students should not be congregating in the nearby Woolworths or Big W shopping centre prior to school but instead should be making their way to school directly and promptly.

## Canteen Menu

The [2026 Canteen Menu](#) is available and includes instructions for making purchases. All Canteen information is located on the [College Website](#).

## Old School Uniforms

Through our partnership with [Vinnies](#), we have multiple bins at Student Services where families can place old student uniforms. Rather than dispose of old uniforms (where they would become landfill), we ask families to utilize these bins at Student Services. Vinnies will either send the clothing overseas to communities in need or remove logos and repurpose the materials. Thank you for supporting this initiative and disposing of old uniforms in a sustainable way.

## On the Horizon

Please see some general dates below for upcoming events:

Date	Event
Friday 6 February	Year 8 Reflection Day
Monday 9 February – Wednesday 11 February	Year 7 Camp 1 (Kavanagh and Murphy Houses)
Monday 9 February – Tuesday 10 February	Year 11 and 12 Student Leaders Camp
Wednesday 11 February – Friday 13 February	Year 7 Camp 2 (Boylan and Moore Houses)
Friday 13 February	50+ Year Alumni Community Morning (10:30am)
Friday 13 February	Year 12 Formal (Adelaide Oval, 5:30 – 10:00pm)

The College Calendar is located on SEQTA Engage and the [College Website](#).

Please feel most welcome to contact us if you have any questions about this information or if you have any concerns about your child making a successful start to the year.

Yours sincerely,

**Jarrad McCabe**

Deputy Principal: People, Culture and Operations